

Kearney, Nebraska
July 14, 2011
4:00 p.m.

A Joint City/County Budget Meeting of the City Council of Kearney, Nebraska and the Buffalo County Board of Supervisors was convened in open and public session at 4:00 p.m. on July 14, 2011 in the Peterson Senior Activity Center, 2020 West 11th Street, Kearney, Nebraska. Present were: Mayor Stanley A. Clouse; Council Members Randy Buschkoetter, Don Kearney. County Supervisors present: Chairman Richard Pierce, Joe Brayton, Kent Greder, William McMullen, Sherry Morrow, Ivan Klein. Absent: Bob Lammers, Bruce Lear and Horace Dannehl. City Staff present: Michael Morgan, City Manager; Michaelle Trembly, City Clerk; Wendell Wessels, Director of Finance; Michael Tye, City Attorney; Suzanne Brodine, Assistant City Manager; Shawna Erbsen, Human Resources Director; Matthew Williams, Library Director; Julie Steffensmeier, Executive Assistant; and Ken Roth, Park Superintendent. County Staff present: Jan Giffin, County Clerk; Neil Miller, Sheriff; Shawn Eatherton, County Attorney.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Kearney Hub, the designated method for giving notice, a copy of the proof of publication being attached to these minutes. Advance notice of the meeting was also given to the City Council and a copy of their acknowledgment or receipt of such notice is attached to these minutes. Availability of the Agenda was communicated in the advance notice and in the notice to the Mayor and City Council. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Prior to the meeting, Mayor Clouse announced that in accordance with Section 84-1412 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes, a current copy of the Open Meetings Act is available for review and is posted in the room.

Director of Finance Wendell Wessels presented the following proposed 2011-2012 budget:

The total County share for 2010-2011 was \$771,583 with the total County share for 2011-2012 being \$841,434. This is an increase of \$69,851 or is approximately a 9.05 percent increase from last year. The City's total share for the 2010-2011 was \$583,108 with the total City share for 2011-2012 being \$588,167. This is an increase of \$5,059 or a 0.87 percent increase from last year.

Cottonmill Park

The total tax requirement in this budget for Cottonmill Lake Park is \$358,850 with the County and City portion being 50 percent each or \$179,425. There was a credit of \$2,600 which was a result of the 2010-2011 budgeted amount of \$346,555 minus the actual expenditure of \$343,955. Some of the notable expenditures include: (1) additional groundwater well for the main lake - \$36,000, (2) east shelter playground - \$22,000, and (3) boat replacement - \$5,000.

Board member Klein stated that with a nine percent increase in the Cottonmill budget for the County, he questioned the well. Park Superintendent Ken Roth stated the existing well pumps approximately 600-700 gallons per minute. Staff has had some issues with blowing breakers and shutting down. They are wanting to continue to pump clean water and not pump the dirty water from the canal. There is currently 200 acre feet available and last year they used 175 acre feet. They are wanting to keep the lake levels up when needed.

Board member Klein stated he understands the necessity of having an additional well in the event the only well breaks down, you have to have a backup. They will need to see where they are with the County budget.

Bookmobile

The total requirement from the County in this budget is \$209,500. Some of the notable expenditures include; (1) Scan Pro 2000 microfilm reader/printer - \$10,200, and (2) save for bookmobile (7 of 10) - \$70,000.

Board member Brayton stated the schools are going down but the costs are going up. Library Director Matt Williams stated the Bookmobile goes to all schools, preschools, little libraries, YRTC, nursing homes, care facilities, all communities. It has not increased much over the past few years. There is the cost of maintaining the vehicle and the vehicle is getting older. There is approximately 49,000 circulation in the County and approximate 1,900-2,100 per day in the Library itself.

Law Enforcement Center

The Law Enforcement Center includes: County Attorney Information Technology, Police Records Services, Police Evidence, Police Building, and Police Data Processing. The total requirement from the County on this budget is \$371,251.67 and the City's requirement is \$513,167. Some of the notable expenditures include; (1) replace heating/cooling unit - \$10,000; (2) paint surfaces - \$15,000; (3) wall covering replacement - \$40,000; (4) replace/update office furnishings, (5) IBM AS400 - \$40,000, and (6) HTE upgrade - \$88,000

Emergency Management

The City and County entered into an agreement for the purpose of providing emergency management services to both the City and the County. Buffalo County agreed to employ the Emergency Management Director as a full-time employee and will fund this position. The Emergency Management Director shall act in an advisory capacity only to the City of Kearney.

Prosecution Services

This agreement has been entered into between the City and County for prosecuting services. The City currently reimburses the County in the amount of \$75,000 annually for these services.

Vehicle Gasoline Purchase

The City, County, School and ESU entered into an interlocal agreement to provide for the purchasing of gasoline.

Airport Road Re-location Financing

The City and County entered into an interlocal agreement setting forth the specifics of the County's agreement to reimburse the City for all construction costs with reference to the relocation of Airport Road and any road improvements along Highway 30. The current estimated cost for the road portion of the project is \$1,275,000. The City, at the request of

Buffalo County, has agreed to oversee the road improvements with the County to reimburse the City for the cost by paying the annual debt service for a period of twenty (20) years.

Baldwin did not begin construction on their building this year so they have started to pay back the interest on those bonds. This will continue until the building is built. If the building is not built by 2015, then Baldwin will have to reimburse the principal as well.

Peterson Senior Activity Center

The 2010-2011 City of Kearney budget to staff and operate the facility was \$243,243 and the projected 2011-2012 budget is \$272,396. The reason for the increase is more programs and entertainment. Because it has been determined that this population was previously underserved in this area, the City is seeking annual financial assistance from the County for operation of the facility in the amount of \$50,000.

Board member Klein stated 95 percent of the people are from Buffalo County. City Manager stated 24 percent of the participants are Kearney residents.

Mayor Clouse asked if the County gave any thought to assisting the City. They have not discussed it since they are just getting into their budgeting process and are still holding hearings with the elected and appointed officials.

Council member Buschkoetter stated the City and County have always had a good working relationship. A few years back it is fair to say that the City was getting a deal with Cottonmill and that the City had to renegotiate its portion of the funding.

Moved by McMullen seconded by Kearney to accept the proposed 2011-2012 budget as presented. Roll call resulted as follows: Aye: Clouse, Kearney, Buschkoetter, Pierce, Greder, Brayton, Klein, Morrow, McMullen. Nay: None. Absent: Lammers, Lear, Dannehl. Motion carried.

ADJOURN

Moved by Klein seconded Clouse by that the meeting adjourn at 4:27 p.m. Roll call resulted as follows: Aye: Clouse, Kearney, Buschkoetter, Lear, Pierce, Klein, McMullen, Greder, Morrow, Brayton. Nay: None. Absent: Lammers, Lear, Dannehl. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

**STANLEY A. CLOUSE
PRESIDENT OF THE COUNCIL
AND EX-OFFICIO MAYOR**

**MICHAELLE E. TREMBLY
CITY CLERK**